

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

1           1.     (Original) A computer implemented server method for dynamically  
2     managing a user software license, the method comprising:  
3                 receiving a plurality of requests from a client to access at least one feature  
4                 of a software program, each request including identification  
5                 information concerning the user, and license verification  
6                 information concerning the user;  
7                 responsive to receiving a request, retrieving stored software license  
8                 information concerning the user, the stored software license  
9                 information corresponding to the received identification  
10                information;  
11                determining current software license information concerning the user; and  
12                returning current software license information concerning the user to the  
13                client.

1           2.     (Original) The server method of claim 1 wherein:  
2                 determining current software license information concerning the user  
3                 comprises determining that the user is not licensed to run the  
4                 software program; and

5                   returning current software license information concerning the user to the  
6                   client comprises returning software license information indicating  
7                   that the user is not licensed to run the software program.

1           3.       (Original) The server method of claim 1 wherein:  
2                   determining current software license information concerning the user  
3                   comprises determining that the user is licensed to run the software  
4                   program; and  
5                   returning current software license information concerning the user to the  
6                   client comprises returning software license information indicating  
7                   that the user is licensed to run the software program.

1           4.       (Original) The server method of claim 1 wherein:  
2                   determining current software license information concerning the user  
3                   comprises determining that it is appropriate to modify software  
4                   license information concerning the user; and  
5                   returning current software license information concerning the user to the  
6                   client comprises returning modified license information  
7                   concerning the user to the client, the method further comprising:  
8                   responsive to the determination, modifying the retrieved license  
9                   information concerning the user; and  
10                  responsive to the determination, storing the modified license  
11                  information concerning the user.

1           5.       (Original) The server method of claim 4 wherein modifying the license  
2                   information concerning the user comprises performing one step form a group of steps  
3                   comprising:  
4                   activating the user software license;  
5                   deactivating the user software license;  
6                   extending the user software license;  
7                   restricting the user software license;

8 upgrading the user software license; and  
9 downgrading the user software license.

1 6. (Original) The server method of claim 4 wherein:  
2 determining that it is appropriate to modify software license information  
3 concerning the user comprises determining that the user is not  
4 licensed to run the software program; and  
5 modifying the license information concerning the user comprises  
6 deactivating the user software license responsive to the  
7 determination.

1 7. (Original) The server method of claim 1 wherein:  
2 determining current software license information concerning the user  
3 comprises determining that the user is not licensed to access a  
4 requested feature of the software program; and  
5 responsive to the determination performing one step from a group of steps  
6 comprising:  
7 not providing the requested feature of the software program to the  
8 client; and  
9 returning current software license information to the client  
10 indicating that the user is not licensed to access the  
11 requested feature.

1 8. (Original) The server method of claim 1 wherein:  
2 determining current software license information concerning the user  
3 comprises determining that the user is licensed to access a  
4 requested feature of the software program; and  
5 responsive to the determination, performing one step from a group of  
6 steps comprising:  
7 providing the requested feature of the software program to the  
8 client; and

9                               returning current software license information to the client  
10                              indicating that the user is licensed to access the requested  
11                              feature.

1           9.   (Original) The server method of claim 1 wherein:  
2               the received license verification information concerning the user  
3               comprises a hardware configuration identifier concerning a  
4               computer associated with the user;  
5               the stored license information concerning the user includes a stored  
6               hardware configuration identifier concerning the computer  
7               associated with the user; and  
8               determining current software license information concerning the user  
9               comprises comparing the received hardware configuration  
10              identifier to the stored hardware configuration identifier, to  
11              determine whether the received hardware configuration identifier  
12              is acceptably similar to the stored hardware configuration  
13              identifier.

1           10.   (Original) The server method of claim 9 further comprising:  
2               responsive to the received hardware configuration identifier being  
3               acceptably similar to the stored hardware configuration  
4               identifier, returning the stored software license information  
5               concerning the user including the stored hardware  
6               configuration identifier to the client.

1           11.   (Original) The server method of claim 9 further comprising:  
2               performing the following steps responsive to the received hardware  
3               configuration identifier not being acceptably similar to the stored  
4               hardware configuration identifier:  
5               determining that the user is not licensed to run the software  
6               program; and

7 updating the stored software license information concerning the  
8 user to indicate that the user is not licensed to run the  
9 software program; and wherein  
10 returning current software license information concerning  
11 the user to the client comprises returning software  
12 license information indicating that the user is not  
13 licensed to run the software program

1 12-19 (Canceled)

1 20. (Original) A computer program product for dynamically managing a user  
2 software license, the computer program product comprising:  
3 program code for receiving a plurality of requests from a client to access  
4 at least one feature of a software program, each request including  
5 identification information concerning the user, and license  
6 verification information concerning the user;  
7 program code for, responsive to receiving a request, retrieving stored  
8 software license information concerning the user, the stored  
9 software license information corresponding to the received  
10 identification information;  
11 program code for determining current software license information  
12 concerning the user;  
13 program code for returning current software license information  
14 concerning the user to the client; and  
15 a computer readable medium on which the program codes are stored.

1 21. (Original) The computer program product of claim 20 further comprising:  
2 program code for determining that the user is not licensed to run the  
3 software program; and  
4 program code for returning software license information indicating that  
5 the user is not licensed to run the software program.

- 1           22.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 20 further comprising:  
2               program code for determining that the user is licensed to run the software  
3               program; and  
4               program code for returning software license information indicating that  
5               the user is licensed to run the software program.
- 1           23.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 20 further comprising:  
2               program code for determining that it is appropriate to modify software  
3               license information concerning the user; and  
4               program code for returning modified license information concerning the  
5               user to the client;  
6               program code for, responsive to the determination, modifying the retrieved  
7               license information concerning the user; and  
8               program code for, responsive to the determination, storing the modified  
9               license information concerning the user.
- 1           24.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 23 wherein the  
2               program code for modifying the license information concerning the user comprises a  
3               program code from a group of program codes comprising:  
4               program code for activating the user software license;  
5               program code for deactivating the user software license;  
6               program code for extending the user software license;  
7               program code for restricting the user software license;  
8               program code for upgrading the user software license; and  
9               program code for downgrading the user software license.
- 1           25.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 23 further comprising:  
2               program code for determining that the user is not licensed to run the  
3               software program; and

4                   program code for deactivating the user software license responsive to the  
5                   determination.

1           26.   (Canceled)

1           27.   (Original) A computer system for dynamically managing a user software  
2 license, the computer system comprising:

3                   a software portion for receiving a plurality of requests from a client to  
4                   access at least one feature of a software program, each request  
5                   including identification information concerning the user, and  
6                   license verification information concerning the user;

7                   a software portion for, responsive to receiving a request, retrieving stored  
8                   software license information concerning the user, the stored  
9                   software license information corresponding to the received  
10                  identification information;

11                  a software portion for determining current software license information  
12                  concerning the user; and

13                  a software portion for returning current software license information  
14                  concerning the user to the client.

1           28.   (Original) The computer system of claim 27 further comprising:

2                   a software portion for determining that the user is not licensed to run the  
3                   software program; and

4                   a software portion for returning software license information indicating  
5                   that the user is not licensed to run the software program.

1           29.   (Original) The computer system of claim 27 further comprising:

2                   a software portion for determining that the user is licensed to run the  
3                   software program; and

4                   a software portion for returning software license information indicating  
5                   that the user is licensed to run the software program.

1           30.   (Original) The computer system of claim 27 further comprising:  
2               a software portion for determining that it is appropriate to modify software  
3               license information concerning the user; and  
4               a software portion for returning modified license information concerning  
5               the user to the client;  
6               a software portion for, responsive to the determination, modifying the  
7               retrieved license information concerning the user; and  
8               a software portion for, responsive to the determination, storing the  
9               modified license information concerning the user.

1           31.   (Original) The computer system of claim 30 wherein the software portion  
2   for modifying the license information concerning the user comprises a software portion  
3   from a group of software portions comprising:  
4               software portion for activating the user software license;  
5               software portion for deactivating the user software license;  
6               software portion for extending the user software license;  
7               software portion for restricting the user software license;  
8               a software portion for upgrading the user software license; and  
9               a software portion for downgrading the user software license.

1           32.   (Original) The computer system of claim 30 further comprising:  
2               a software portion for determining that the user is not licensed to run the  
3               software program; and  
4               a software portion for deactivating the user software license responsive to  
5               the determination.

1           33.   (Original) A computer system for dynamically managing a user software  
2   license, the computer system comprising:  
3               a software portion for sending a plurality of requests to a server to access  
4               at least one feature of a software program, each request including



5 identification information concerning the user, and license  
6 verification information concerning the user;  
7 a software portion for receiving current software license information  
8 concerning the user from the server; and  
9 a software portion for storing received current software license  
10 information concerning the user.

1 34. (Original) A computer system for dynamically managing a user software  
2 license, the computer system comprising:  
3 means for receiving a plurality of requests from a client to access at least  
4 one feature of a software program, each request including  
5 identification information concerning the user, and license  
6 verification information concerning the user;  
7 means for, responsive to receiving a request, retrieving stored software  
8 license information concerning the user, the stored software  
9 license information corresponding to the received identification  
10 information;  
11 means for determining current software license information concerning  
12 the user; and  
13 means for returning current software license information concerning the  
14 user to the client.

1 35-37 (Canceled)